



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Police continue to utilize reverse prostitution operations *10 men arrested in third operation of year*

Howard County police are continuing to utilize reverse prostitution operations with success. The department conducted its third operation of the year on Friday, resulting in 10 men being arrested for solicitation of prostitution along U.S. 1. In two operations earlier this year, a total of 27 men were arrested.

On Friday, detectives and female officers arrested 10 suspects for soliciting prostitution in Laurel. Female officers in plain clothes worked undercover in areas targeted by citizen complaints to determine whether they would be approached and offered money for sex. Suspects who approached the female officers and made such offers were arrested.

The following suspects were arrested and charged with solicitation of prostitution:

- Dennekew H. Chebala, 62, of Washington, D.C.
- Oscar Iraheta-Garcia, 30, of Lanham
- Jose Astul Mejia-Portillo, 40, of Beltsville
- Johnny Edward Peery, 54, of Laurel
- Rene Alberto Pozo, 37, of Mount Ranier
- [REDACTED] – Expunged 10/2014
- Frank Payton Rodgers, 42, of Laurel
- Alkexis Yovani Romero-Sarmiento, 36, of Catonsville
- Angel A. Scherrer, 37, of New Carrollton
- Raymond Hiroshi Vollmer, 46, of Highland

Police will continue to address prostitution and related criminal activity in the county. Citizens are encouraged to call 410-313-STOP with tips or information. Callers may remain anonymous.

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